RAWR
Why won't you release the next chapter?!
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What can I do to help?
Fan Girl
It's not like YOU helped out any...
We don't have enough translators or editors
Cross-eyed attempt
Visit our website for details
Find us some translators and editors and you'll have your next chapter
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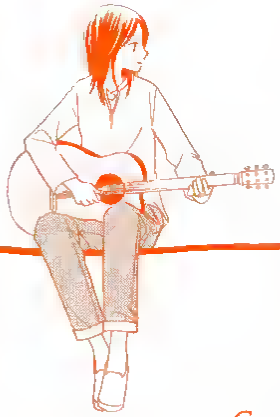
SCANNER LACHILLE
TRANSLATOR ASAMIA
PROOFREADER ELIAA
EDITOR KULALAOE & AAREN
QC: LACHILLE

passes the box of tissues around Please use at your own discretion T_T

- Lacaille

Comic
タイヨウのうた
A Song to the Sun
Drawing Minatsuki Tsunami
Original Work Bandou Kenji
作画
皆月つなみ
原案
坂東賢治
©2006「タイヨウのうた」フィルムパートナーズ



Contents

A Song to the Sun

3

Afterword

151

THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH REAL PEOPLE OR ORGANIZATIONS. ALSO, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE PORTRAYAL OF XP (XERODERMA PIGMENTOSUM) WITHIN THIS WORK HAS MANY POINTS THAT DIFFER FROM REALITY. I HOPE THAT AFTER READING THIS WORK, PEOPLE WILL SHOW A CONCERN IN XP AND WILL SUPPORT THOSE AFFLICTED WITH THIS DISEASE.

Screech
The sun is about to rise.
Here he comes.
AH

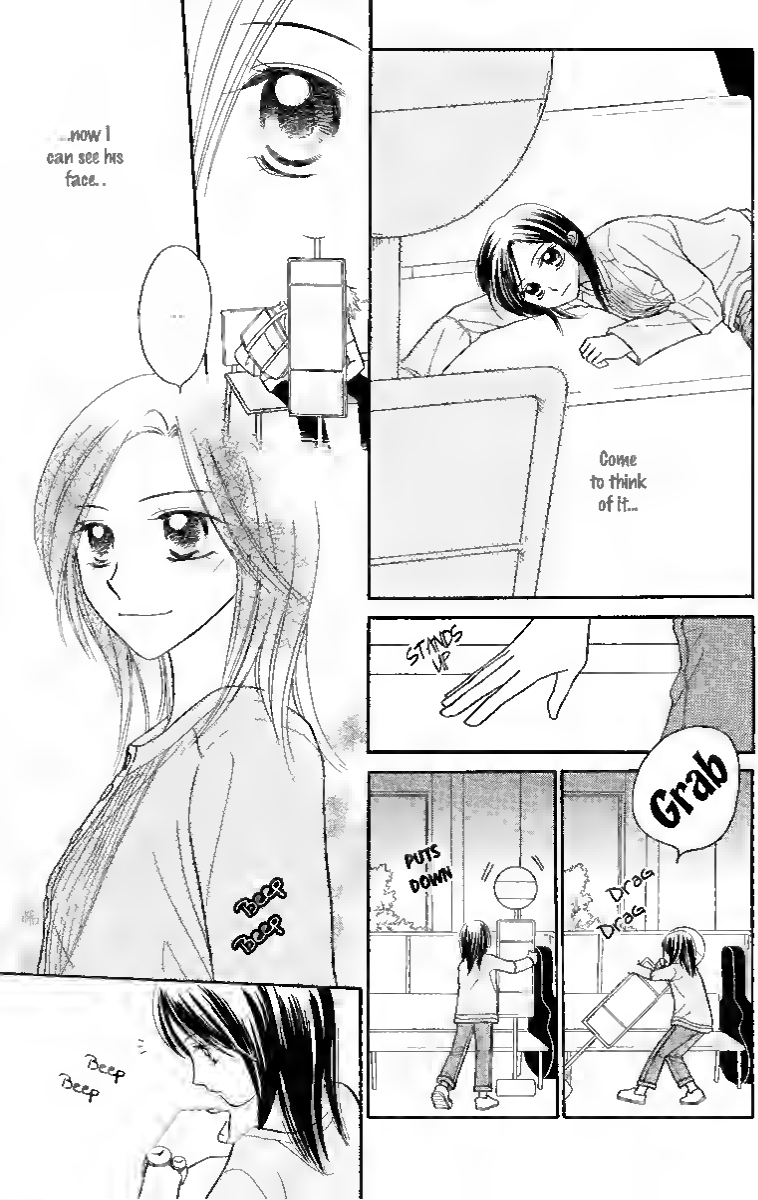
He's someone who lives under the sun.
rustle rustle
Vroom!
He went away.
But I...
Beep Beep Beep Beep
Great
Oh.
YOU FINALLY WOKE UP, HUH?

ARE YOU GOING OUT AGAIN TONIGHT?
YEAH
YOU GO EVERY SINGLE NIGHT. DO YOU REALLY HAVE CUSTOMERS?
YEAH. Two or three people
THEN IT'S POINTLESS
IT'S ALL RIGHT I DON'T REALLY CARE.
THEN IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
Hey, honey
SINCE IT'S A DAY OFF TODAY ANYWAY, WE'LL STOP BY AND SEE YOU.
I'LL KILL YOU IF YOU COME.
OK
Thanks for the food.
DO YOU KNOW
WHEN THE MOON WILL COME OUT?
YEAH.
NOT YEAH.
FOUR-FORTY.

THEN YOU'VE GOT TO BE HOME BY FOUR, AT ALL COSTS.
My day really begins at night
Clatter
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, SHE'S UNDER-AGE, RIGHT?
SHALL WE PUT HER INTO CUSTODY?
HMM?
Seriously, she's out so late at night.
NO, THAT GIRL IS ALL RIGHT.
HER PARENTS EXPLAINED IT PROPERLY TO US.
EXPLAINED?
HOW SHALL I SAY IT? THEY SAID THAT IT'S XP OR SOMETHING. IT'S A DISEASE
WHERE YOU'RE ALLERGIC TO ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT. IF YOU'RE EXPOSED TO THE SUN, YOU'LL DIE.

THAT'S WHY THAT GIRL CAN ONLY GO OUT AT NIGHT.
This is the bench he sat on...
SIT'S DOWN
briskly

GLANCE
He was right here.


...now I can see his face..
Come to think of it...
STANDS UP
Grab
PUTS DOWN
Drag Drag
Beep Beep
Beep Beep

Click
Even so...
Beep Beep
1:00
Beep Beep Beep
Yawn
...I suppose our time...
CLACK
...will never coincide with one another's.
I'M GOING AHEAD, MOM

HI. WHERE'S KAORU?
HEY,
DO YOU PLAN TO SKIP SCHOOL AGAIN?
CLICK
OOPS
THEN GO ON UP
GOTCHA
I'LL BE FINE
SHE WENT TO SLEEP JUST NOW
SHE'LL BE MAD IF YOU WAKE HER UP.
WELL... I DON'T THINK SHE'LL WANT TO WEAR THAT.
IT'S BECAUSE HER OLD ONE IS TOO SMALL NOW.
UNFORTUNATELY, I KNOW THAT.
OH,
YOU MADE A NEW ULTRAVIOLET-PROTECTION SUIT, AUNTIE?

...BUT DON'T EAT THE STUFF FROM THE FRIDGE TOO FREELY, OK?
HMM?
THIS IS A BIT HARD TO SAY...
THAT ASIDE, MISAKI-CHAN,
Zzz
AHH.
Ka-thunk
BUT HE LOVES IT SO MUCH THAT HE CAN'T HELP IT
IT'S PRETTY CUTE
Ha ha.
IT'S RARE TO SEE A GUY TAKE SO LONG AND STILL NOT IMPROVE.

GET UP, KOUJI! WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE AGAIN!
WHAT?
ALL RIGHT, IT'S ABOUT TIME
UWAH! IT'S TEN!
HURRY UP!
Kaoru

To me, singing is the only thing that I live for
YEAH.
ARE YOU GOING TO SING AGAIN TONIGHT?
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR
Yawn
Pout
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

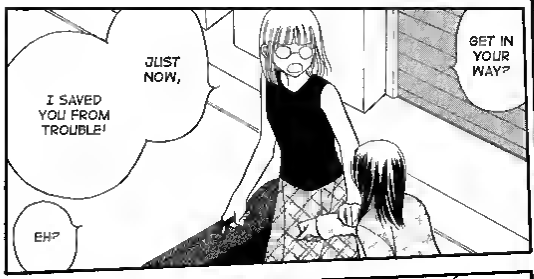
Eh? No way...
It's him
It's him!
WHAT'S WRONG?
Clack
Oh, no, what should I do?
He's going away.
DASH
KAORU?!

RUN
RUN
RUN
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
Such a coincidence will probably never happen again.
Where is he?
Where is he?
LOOKS AROUND
LOOKS AROUND
There he is!
Pant
Pant
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

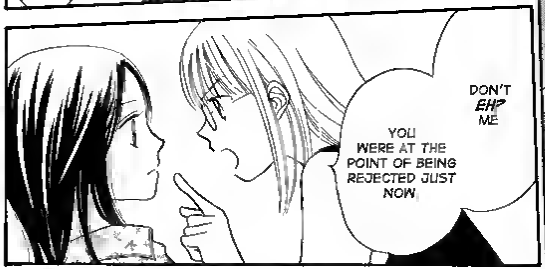
THUD
WAH?!
WHA—
That hurts!!
I'M AMANE KAORU!

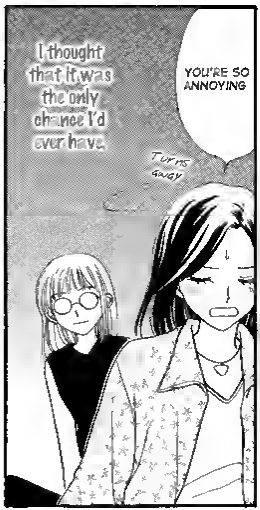
ALEK!
I'M AMANE KAORU
SO?
MY HOBBY IS MUSIC. I'M A BIT SHORT-TEMPERED. I'M SIXTEEN. I LIVE WITH MY PARENTS. I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND.
Pant
Pant
?
I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED AT YOU
I'VE ALWAYS, ALWAYS LOOKED AT YOU
Huh?
EH
WHAT?
UM
AH
AH, I SEE
That's what it is.
I'VE NEVER HAD ONE
EH?
I DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND!

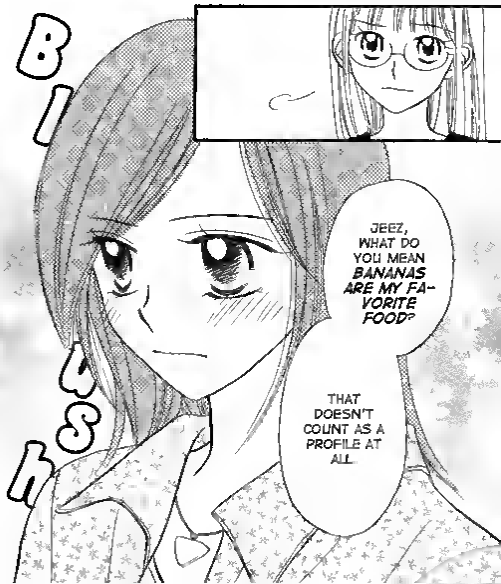
APPROACHING
RETREATING
HOLD ON A MOMENT
AH...
MY FAVORITE ANIMAL IS A CHEETAH
BANANAS ARE MY FAVORITE FOOD
NO, WELL...
WAI...
THERE ARE TOO MANY MUSICIANS THAT I LIKE
WHO SHOULD I PICK AS MY FAVORITE?
Um
KAORU!
RUN
RUN
RUN
SHOVE
I'M REALLY SORRY
Wh...
Eh?


GET IN YOUR WAY?
JUST NOW,
I SAVED YOU FROM TROUBLE!
EH?

RUN
HEY, WHAT THE HELL? DON'T GET IN MY WAY!
RUN
RUN

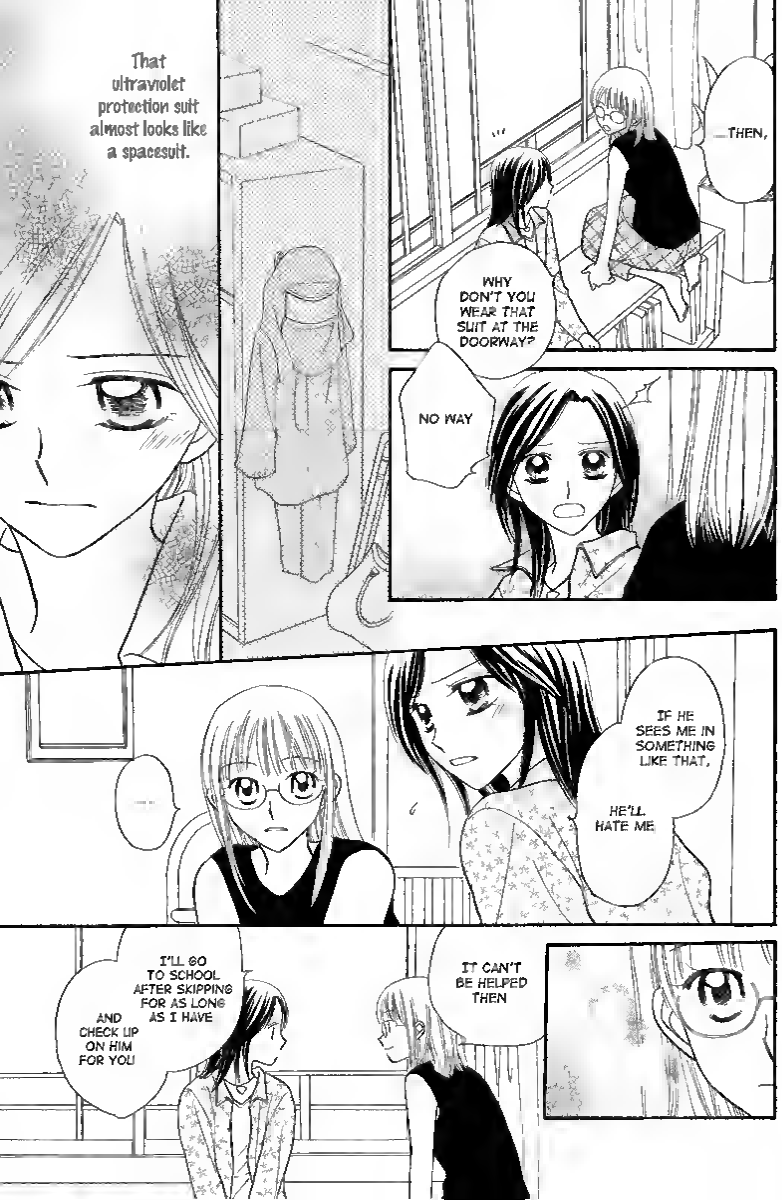

DON'T EH? ME
YOU WERE AT THE POINT OF BEING REJECTED JUST NOW


I thought that it was the only chance I'd ever have.
YOU'RE SO ANNOYING
TURNS AWAY


BI
KISS
JEEZ, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BANANAS ARE MY FA-VORITE FOOD?
THAT DOESN'T COUNT AS A PROFILE AT ALL

HEY, YOU HAVEN'T TALKED TO A BOY SINCE GRADE SCHOOL, RIGHT?
Hold on a moment
SO,
Wahoo!
My board
WHO EXACTLY IS HE?
MAYBE HE GOES TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS ME?
YEAH...
WELL, I DON'T KNOW HIM.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU SKIP ALL THE TIME
Ah, I see.

THAT'S BECAUSE I'VE WATCHED HIM FROM HERE.
BUT THEN, YOU DON'T KNOW HIS NAME OR ANYTHING ABOUT HIM?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE?
I've only been looking at him
I've never talked to him
IS HE GOOD AT SURFING?


That ultraviolet protection suit almost looks like a spacesuit.
...
...THEN,
WHY DON'T YOU WEAR THAT SUIT AT THE DOORWAY?
NO WAY
IF HE SEES ME IN SOMETHING LIKE THAT,
HE'LL HATE ME
...
I'LL GO TO SCHOOL AFTER SKIPPING FOR AS LONG AS I HAVE
AND CHECK UP ON HIM FOR YOU!
IT CAN'T BE HELPED THEN

SLOWLY
REALLY?

WE CAN'T GIVE HER A MEDICAL CHECK-UP
IF THE PATIENT DOESN'T COME IN PERSON,
So, she still hates hospitals
I'M SORRY, NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, SHE DOESN'T WANT TO COME.
THEN, HOW IS HER CONDITION?
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR
THEN HER CONDITION HASN'T WORSENED
HER HEALTH IS NO DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF A NORMAL GIRL'S.
IS THAT SO? WHAT ABOUT HER REFLEXES?
THEY'RE FINE
EVERY-WHERE ON HER BODY?
YES.
SHE ALREADY PASSED THE AGE YOU TOLD US TO BE PREPARED FOR A LONG TIME AGO

SENSEI, ALSO...
YOU'RE RIGHT I'M SORRY
I'M SORRY THERE'S NO CURE AS OF YET
I SEE...
XP IS A VERY STRANGE DISEASE
YOU CAN SAY THAT EVEN AMONG PEOPLE WHO ARE AFFLICTED WITH THIS ILLNESS, THEY HAVE DIFFERENT CONDITIONS
INSIDE THE DNA OF A NORMAL PERSON, THERE'S SOMETHING CALLED A REPAIRING ENZYME...
AS A RESULT, IF A PERSON IS SUNBURNED, THAT ENZYME WILL BEGIN ITS WORK, AND YOUR SKIN WILL, IN DUE COURSE, COMPLETELY RECOVER
EVEN IF THE SUNBURNED SKIN PEALS OFF, NEW SKIN WILL HAVE ALREADY FORMED UNDERNEATH
HOWEVER, XP PATIENTS DON'T HAVE THIS ENZYME
THEIR SUNBURNS WON'T COMPLETELY RECOVER, AND THEY'LL DEVELOP SKIN CANCER
...BUT THE ONE THING THAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT ALL OF THESE CASES..

XP... huh...?
IS RATHER THAN THE ULTRAVIOLET RAYS THEMSELVES,
THE NEUROLOGICAL DISORDER THAT WORSENS AS THEY AGE IS EVEN MORE FRIGHTENING.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE FILMED SOMEONE IN SECRET,
SO IT MIGHT BE A BIT BLURRY.
OK.
thump
AH, AND I'LL TELL YOU HIS NAME BEFOREHAND.
IT'S FUJISHIRO KOUJI
START
thump
His name...
FUJISHIRO KOUJI.

Pa
Head falling down
HE'S SLEEPING?
Pa
NO
IT SEEMS THAT HE'S NOT VERY SMART.
HEH
IT'S A NICER PLACE THAN I THOUGHT.
OH, YEAH, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN A HIGH SCHOOL.
YEAH

YEAH
IT'S POINTLESS TO GO THERE
EVERY-ONE LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE HAVING FUN
AH
Let's see.
WELL, APPARENTLY, THESE THREE OFTEN STICK TOGETHER
HEH
THE ONE ON THE RIGHT IS FRIEND NUMBER ONE, OONISHI YUUTA THE ONE ON THE LEFT IS FRIEND NUMBER TWO, KATO HARUO

WELL, IT DOES LOOK LIKE HE DID
DID HE WASH HIS HANDS?
UWAH, THAT'S HORRIBLE

This is the first time
I've seen him somewhere other than the bus stop
Pu
ISN'T HE'S STUPID AND VULGAR?
But...
I want to get closer to him.
HMM... PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER...
WELL, IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THIS

Walk on the same street as him.
Mmmm
do the same things he does...
I kind of feel like I'm already with him.

Claack
...
Lalala...
...
Lala...

Wah.
Wah, wah.
GOOD EVENING.
GOOD EVENING.
to
to
to
to
YOU'RE FROM THE OTHER NIGHT, RIGHT?
YEAH
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
NO, IT'S FINE
BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO LATE AT NIGHT?
I'M GOING HOME AFTER MY GIG
EVERY NIGHT, I SING AT THE PLAZA
AHH, YOU SAID THAT YOUR HOBBY IS MUSIC
YOU MEAN A LIVE STREET PERFOR-MANCE?
WELL, I GUESS SO
click
HEH, THAT'S AWESOME
What should I do?
YOU THINK SO?
What should I do?

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I didn't think I'd get to see him again.
THE SONG YOU WERE SINGING JUST NOW WAS GOOD
WHAT'S THE NAME OF IT?
thump
What should I do? I need to find more things to talk about.
thump
Slash
I HAVEN'T DECIDED YET.
Eh?
YOU CREATED IT ON YOUR OWN?!
That's even more amazing!
W-WHAT ABOUT YOU?
YEAH.
YOU LIKE SURFING?
HEH,
THAT BOARD LOOKS COOL.

YOU CAN TELL?!
Clack
Clack
I BOUGHT THIS AFTER HAVING A HARD TIME CHOOSING
IT'S NICE, ISN'T IT?
His smiling face is so close to me.
WELL, IT'S SECOND-HAND, THOUGH.

This is really happening, right?
SO, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN WATCHING ME FROM OVER THERE.
FROM THAT ROOM WITH THE SHEETS ON THE WINDOWS.
SHEETS?
I DON'T WANT TO GET SUNBURNED.
YEAH, YOU'RE A GIRL AFTER ALL.
I DON'T GO TO SCHOOL.
I TOOK EXAMS, BUT I FAILED THEM ALL.
Since I'm not smart.
EH?
WHICH HIGH SCHOOL DO YOU GO TO?
I thought this is real.

SAME WITH ME
I ALMOST FAILED THE EXAM FOR THE SCHOOL I'M GOING TO.
GLANCE
...
HEY...
WHAT?
TURNS AWAY
YOU WENT SURFING EARLY TODAY, HUH?
YEAH. I HAPPENED TO WAKE UP EARLY
OH, SO YOU JUST HAPPENED TO WAKE UP EARLY

—SING
—ING...
YOU DO THAT EVERY NIGHT, RIGHT?
YEAH
AT THE PLAZA IN FRONT OF THE STA-TION?
THAT'S RIGHT. WHY?
YOU WANT TO LISTEN TO MY SONG?
NO, NOTHING.
I'M JUST WONDERING IF IT'S OK FOR ME TO GO AND LISTEN TO YOU.
THEN I'LL SING FOR YOU RIGHT NOW.
THEN THAT MEANS I CAN'T SEE YOU EVERY DAY, EVEN IF I COME HERE AROUND THIS TIME.
I SEE.
I WAS ON MY WAY HOME AFTER SINGING, SO I THOUGHT I HAD GOOD TIMING. I GUESS THAT'S NOT THE CASE.

EH? HERE?
HURRIEDLY
Beep
Beep
Ah.
Beep
Beep
It's time.
ON SECOND THOUGHT, I HAVE TO GO
HEY, HERE.
EH?
ANOTHER TIME.
...GOODBYE.
I wanted...
...to be with him just a little longer

TO YOUR LIVE STREET PERFORMANCE
Eh..
IF I CAN, MAYBE I'LL GO NEXT TIME...
He can't mean it.
PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY'LL GO WHEN THEY CAN
DON'T ALWAYS COME
AH, YEAH
I'm sure he's not serious...
THEN I'LL DEFINITELY GO DURING SUMMER BREAK

Run
No way.
REALLY?
YEAH
This is a miracle!
Wow
Wow.

It's a definite promise that we'll see each other again.
EVEN THOUGH THIS IS YOUR LAST SUMMER BREAK OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL LIFE,
IF YOU PLAY AROUND TOO MUCH, YOU'LL JUST FALL BEHIND
HEY, HONEY
LISTEN UP, ALL OF YOU
THIS SUMMER IS A FIGHT FOR YOU.
Crap
Report Card
WHAT'S THIS CIRCLE AROUND TODAY'S DATE?
I DON'T KNOW I DIDN'T MARK IT

THEN IS IT KAORU'S?
TOK
What day is it...?
TOK
Come to think of it...
TODAY IS THE START OF SUMMER BREAK FOR THE OTHER KIDS, HUH?
12 13 14
19 20 21
26 8
I can see him again.
Close
CRUNCH
STARE
PUNCH
UWAH! YOU SCARED ME!
What are you doing?
NOW THAT SUMMER BREAK HAS STARTED, ARE YOU GOING OUT TO PLAY AT NIGHT?
SURFING, SURFING

I'LL PHONE YOU EVERY TEN MINUTES!
Vroom
LIKE I SAID, I'M GOING TO STUDY...
WITH HARUO, AT YUUTA'S HOUSE
IF YOU GET ANY MORE STUPID THAN YOU ALREADY ARE, I WON'T ACCEPT IT
Come on, move it
THEN SHALL I GO WITH YOU, TOO?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO.
He's coming to listen to my song.
YEAH, CALL ME ON MY CELL
I'LL CALL YOU LATER TO CHECK UP ON YOU.

SNIFF
GOOD EVENING
AH
AHH, DO YOU ALWAYS SING THERE?
ARE YOU WAITING UNTIL HE'S DONE?
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY
JAAAAN
Ah
Ah
GA
GA
GA
MY PLACE WAS TAKEN
WHAT'S THIS?
He's terrible.
LISTEN TO THE SHOUT OF MY SOUL
AND I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO TONIGHT, TOO
EH?

SINCE YOU SAID THAT YOU'D COME
LISTEN TO ME
EH?
..HEY, DO YOU ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO SING HERE?
IF YOU DON'T MIND GOING SOMEWHERE ELSE...
I CAME BY WITH MY SCOOTER AFTER ALL
Click
Click
Click
IT'S MY FIRST TIME RIDING A SCOOTER
Haha
LET ME SEE
REALLY?

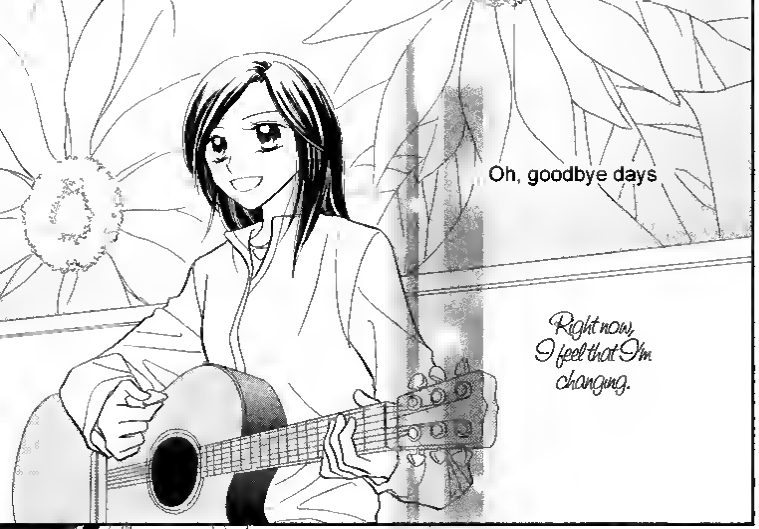
ALL RIGHT SHALL WE GET GOING?
WHERE?
SOMEPLACE NICE
How beautiful
Wow!

Scenery that I'm looking at for the first time. It's all..
HEY,
CAN WE TAKE A LOOK AROUND THE STREETS WHILE WE'RE AT IT?
...making my heart dance so fast.

I want to convey this feeling .
When I'm with him, everything seems to sparkle.
I'm so happy.
It's so much fun

PON
PON
innale
GLANCE
?

So now I'm going to meet you.
That's what I've decided.
I want you to hear this song in my pocket.
Softly raising the volume, I tried to make sure...


Oh, goodbye days
Right now,
I feel that I'm
changing.

Until yesterday, so long

Please,

let my
feelings,
my song...

_because there's an uncool
...reach him.
gentleness by my side_

ZAZA
HEY,
DON'T YOU WANT TO HAVE A CD DEBUT IN THE FUTURE OR SOMETHING?
IN THE FUTURE?
YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT'D BE A DREAM COME TRUE IF I COULD DO THAT.
THAT'S AWESOME. I DON'T HAVE ANY HOPES LIKE THAT.
... with you

I GUESS I'LL JUST KEEP THIS UP AND LIVE AND DIE NORMALLY.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS THAT YOU CAN DO
YOU THINK SO?
YEAH.
I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND SOMETHING THAT YOU WANT TO DO.
Because your future..
THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING.
...is full of possibilities.
I SEE.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
Haha.
I'M SO SIMPLE.
...

I'M FUJISHIRO KOUJI
STAND UP
EH?
I DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND. MY HOBBY IS SURFING.
PLEASE DATE ME.
OK.

Maybe, there are still some possibilities...
My feelings reached him.
...for my future, too...
ALL RIGHTY, I THINK WE WON'T HAVE TO WAIT MUCH LONGER
IT'S STILL PITCH BLACK RIGHT NOW, BUT AT SUNRISE, THE SEA IS GORGEOUS.
EH?
LET'S GO AND SEE IT
THERE'S ABOUT TEN MINUTES LEFT

Ba-thump
I MESSED UP. I WISH I HAD BROUGHT MY BOARD WITH ME
I WANTED TO SHOW YOU HOW I RIDE THE WAVES.
I'VE GOT TO GO HOME...
Well, I'm not that good yet though
Looks
No way!
My alarm stopped!
Ba-thump
AH, WHY DON'T YOU SURF WITH ME?
Ba-thump
I'VE GOT TO GO HOME
Ba-thump
Ba-thump
LET'S DO IT
IT'LL BE FUN TO DO IT TOGETHER.

The sky is starting to brighten.
I have no time left.
PLEASE, I WANT TO GO HOME!
BUT I WANT TO GO HOME
IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE YOU DON'T HAVE A CURFEW OR SOMETHING, RIGHT?
HEY, TAKE ME BACK
IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE, THOUGH.
Crunch
DASH
WHAT'S WRO—
?
She's back.

HEY, HOLD ON.
HOLD ON A MINUTE!
Uwah
I GET IT. I'LL TAKE YOU BACK.
I HAVE A SICKNESS
EH?
I DON'T WANT TO DIE
The sun...

SCREECH!
DASH
AH, YOUR GUITAR!
Please, just a little more.
let me be on time.
GET ON
The sun is rising.

Pant
Pant
Wait.
Pant
Wait.
FLASH
BAM

Ah...
HEY,
WHAT'S WRONG ALL OF A SUDDEN?
Knock Knock
Flinch
Pant
Pant Pant
HEY
What should I do?
What should I do?
What should I tell him.?
CLACK
...

Crunch
Crunch
Crunch
Crunch
Crunch

fu.
u
u
CLANG
KAORU!
JUST NOW?!
WERE YOU WITH HER?
EH?
YEAH, I BROUGHT HER BACK JUST NOW.
UNCLE, AUNTIE! KAORU IS BACK!
bam
WHAT'S WRONG, EXACTLY?

PUSH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
DO YOU WANT TO KILL KAORU?!
EH?
SHE TOLD ME
THAT SHE HAS A SICKNESS!
OF COURSE I CAN'T TELL YOU!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH HER?
RUN
RUN
RUN
RUN

EH?
THAT'S RIGHT KAORU HAS A SICKNESS!
IF SHE'S UNDER THE SUN, SHE MIGHT DIE!
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF SHE'D DIED?!
THAT'S WHY SHE CAN ONLY GO OUT AT NIGHT!
YES
SHE WAS IN THE SUNLIGHT ONLY FOR A MINUTE OR TWO
WILL THERE BE SCARS?
NO, WITH THIS LOW LEVEL OF EXPOSURE, THERE'S NO PROBLEM AT ALL
WERE HER CLOTHES THE SAME WHEN SHE GOT BACK?

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THANK GOOD-NESS.
"...there's no problem at all."
No problem? Don't joke around.
Vroom
WHAT?
DON'T WHAT? ME
WHAT'S WITH THAT JERK FROM THIS MORNING?
I'VE NEVER HEARD ABOUT HIM.
IS HE SOMEONE YOU LIKE?
SO? CAN'T I?
SO THAT'S IT?!
I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU!
HEY!
BUT IT'S ALREADY OVER

I'll put an end to this.
I TRIED TO THINK THAT MY DISEASE WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH US.
I won't meet him anymore.
BUT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO LIKE SOMEONE
DON'T SAY THAT
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T SEE HIM ANY-MORE
I DON'T THINK HE WANTS TO HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND WITH A DISEASE, EITHER
HE HAS A FUTURE.
AND YOU HAVE ONE, TOO.
YOU DON'T HAVE A DISEASE. IT'S INDIVIDUALITY.
YOU'RE SPOUTING PRETTY WORDS AGAIN
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
MY DISEASE CAN'T BE CURED ANYWAY.

THAT'S NOT TRUE
THEN SAY THAT WHILE LOOKING ME IN THE EYES!
I WON'T BE TRICKED ANYMORE
I won't stay a kid forever.
Dermatology medical specialist Textbook
It's the end of everything.

EH?
WHAT IS?
MOVING CLOSE
KAORU IS FINE
REALLY? THAT'S GREAT
WHAT'S GREAT ABOUT IT? SHE DOESN'T EVEN LEAVE HER ROOM ANYMORE
SHE FINALLY FOUND SOMETHING SHE LIKES, AND SHE WAS ABLE TO ENJOY HERSELF...
AH,
HI
IGNORES
IT'S ENTIRELY YOUR FAULT!

HOW IS SHE?
SHE SAID SHE'S GOING TO SLEEP.
SHE MUST BE TIRED AFTER GOING TO THE HOSPITAL DURING THE DAY.
IT'S FINE IF THAT'S THE CASE, BUT I HOPE SHE WON'T KEEP LOCKING HERSELF UP IN HER ROOM LIKE THIS
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? SHE'S NOT GOING OUT FOR JUST ONE NIGHT
BUT SHE ALSO SAID THAT SHE DOESN'T EVEN WANT TO SEE MISAKI-CHAN
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
SHE WAS LIKE THIS FOR ALMOST A YEAR ONCE BEFORE.
Ding Dong!

GETS UP
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Ding Dong
Kouji-kun.
THANK GOOD-NESS
I WAS WONDERING WHAT I'D DO
IF YOUR SCARY DAD HAD OPENED THE DOOR
WHO'S THAT?
IT'S ME.
HOW ARE YOU?

NOTHING UNUSUAL. I'M WELL.
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SINGING IN FRONT OF THE STATION THESE DAYS. WHAT'S WRONG?
WON'T YOU SING ANYMORE?
I WON'T
I'M ALREADY FED UP WITH IT
YOU'RE LYING YOU'RE SO GOOD AT IT.
IT'S TOO MUCH OF A WASTE IF YOU DON'T SING
I WANT TO HEAR YOUR SONG ONE MORE TIME
I...
WISH I COULD LIVE LIKE A NORMAL GIRL..

HOLD ON!
RUN
RUN
RUN
GO HOME!
I WON'T SING ANY-MORE!
THAT'S ALL I WISH.
NOTHING GOOD WILL COME OUT OF GETTING INVOLVED WITH ME ANY MORE THAN YOU ALREADY HAVE.
DON'T COME HERE ANYMORE
BUT...
I'LL FIND SOMETHING ELSE TO KILL TIME!

CLATTER
Recycle
LET'S SEE...
I CAN GIVE YOU TWO THOUSAND YEN FOR THIS
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I'LL SELL IT
I won't sing anymore.

Click
Click
YOU TWO CAN EAT THIS
Clatter
YOU DON'T WANT IT?
I DON'T
SCRUB
SCRUB

YOU'LL GET TWENTY-THOUSAND YEN AFTER WASHING ALL OF THESE
With your speed, you'll only get about six thousand yen today
FINISH IT UP BEFORE THE SUN SETS.
ARE YOU THE PART-TIME WORKER?
YES.
ALL RIGHT ALSO,
IS IT TRUE THAT I'LL GET TWENTY-THOUSAND YEN?
THAT'S RIGHT.
BUT IT'S NOT JUST FOR ONE BOAT
EH?
I'M HOME.
WEL-COME HOME.
HAVE YOU PUT OUT THE FIRE IN THE KITCHEN?
I HAVE. DON'T ASK ME ABOUT EVERY LITTLE THING.
HOW'S KAORU? IS SHE STAYING HOME AGAIN TODAY?

SHE SAID THAT SHE'S QUIT SINGING
...WELL, SHE HAD HER HEART BROKEN AFTER ALL.
IT'S NOT LIKE SHE WAS TURNED DOWN.
BUT EVER SINCE THAT GUY FOUND OUT SHE HAS SUCH A CONDITION, HE HASN'T SAID A WORD.
SO HE'S THAT KIND OF GUY.
Kaoru
SORRY I HAD YOU COME ALL THE WAY HERE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
WELL? WHAT DID YOU CALL ME HERE FOR?
I THINK YOU'D KNOW.
ABOUT WHAT?

KAORU SAID THAT HE ALWAYS PASSES BY THE STREET IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE, AND SHE HAS BEEN WATCHING HIM ALL THIS TIME.
HE'S A SENIOR AT THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS ME.
SO HE'S A SENIOR AT THE LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL HUH?
YES.
I KNOW ABOUT HIM.
I HAVEN'T GIVEN YOU ONE OF THESE IN A LONG WHILE, BUT DO YOU WANT SOME FISTS?
I know quite a lot about him.
NO, I DON'T.
DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON KAORU'S EX-BOYFRIEND?
IF SHE WENT TO SCHOOL
HE'S SOMEONE KAORU WOULD HAVE COME TO KNOW
DO YOU THINK SHE'D GET ANGRY?
THEN, IF I ASK HIM TO COME TO MEET KAORU,
EH?
She won't talk to you for the rest of her life
OF COURSE SHE WILL.
WILL KAORU BE ANGRY IF I MEET THAT BOYFRIEND OF HERS?
HMM?
HEY, JUDGE WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY RIGHT NOW BASED ON THE POINT OF VIEW OF A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

...
WILL SHE?
WILL SHE BE ANGRY?
I DON'T MIND LYING IF I BOW DOWN MY HEAD AND BEG HIM TO SEE KAORU,
...
SHE'LL BE ANGRY
AND SHE'LL CRY

KAORU IT'S DIN-NERTIME
OK...
La la...
♫
Ah
EXCUSE ME FOR IN-TRUDING
EXCUSE ME FOR IN-TRUDING
Steps back
Wh..
Dash

clack
clack
She went to change her clothes.
Clatter
DO YOU USUALLY NOT EAT ANYTHING?
MUNCH MUNCH
YES, I'M ENJOYING THE FOOD
EVERYTHING IS DELICIOUS
DON'T HOLD BACK JUST EAT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT, KOUJI-KUN
NAH, I'M MOTIVATED BECAUSE THIS IS A FREE MEAL
YOU'RE REALLY A NICE KID
Ha ha ha

YOUR DAD INVITED ME HERE
MY DAD?!
WHAT DID HE TALK ABOUT WITH YOU?
THIS IS KIND OF WEIRD
DON'T BE ANGRY
I'M NOT REALLY...
WHAT IS THIS? WHAT ARE YOU SCHEMING?
DEFINITELY STRANGE
WHO THOUGHT THIS UP?
NOTHING MUCH
I DIDN'T INTEND TO HIDE THIS FROM YOU
Rustle
Rustle
HERE
Flap
Clatter
WHAT?

A CD
I'M NOT VERY SMART AND THIS IS THE SINGLE THING THAT I COULD COME UP WITH.
I ONLY STARTED WORKING RECENTLY, SO I HAVEN'T SAVED UP ANY MONEY AT ALL..
NO MATTER WHAT, I STILL WANT TO HEAR YOUR SONG, ONE MORE TIME
Do you want to put your original song into a CD?
¥200,000!!
IF IT'S MONEY, I'LL PAY.
REALLY?
THIS IS SOMETHING THAT I CAME UP WITH,
Uh,
NO
I HAVE TO DECLINE THAT OFFER
SO I WANT TO CARRY IT OUT UNTIL THE END

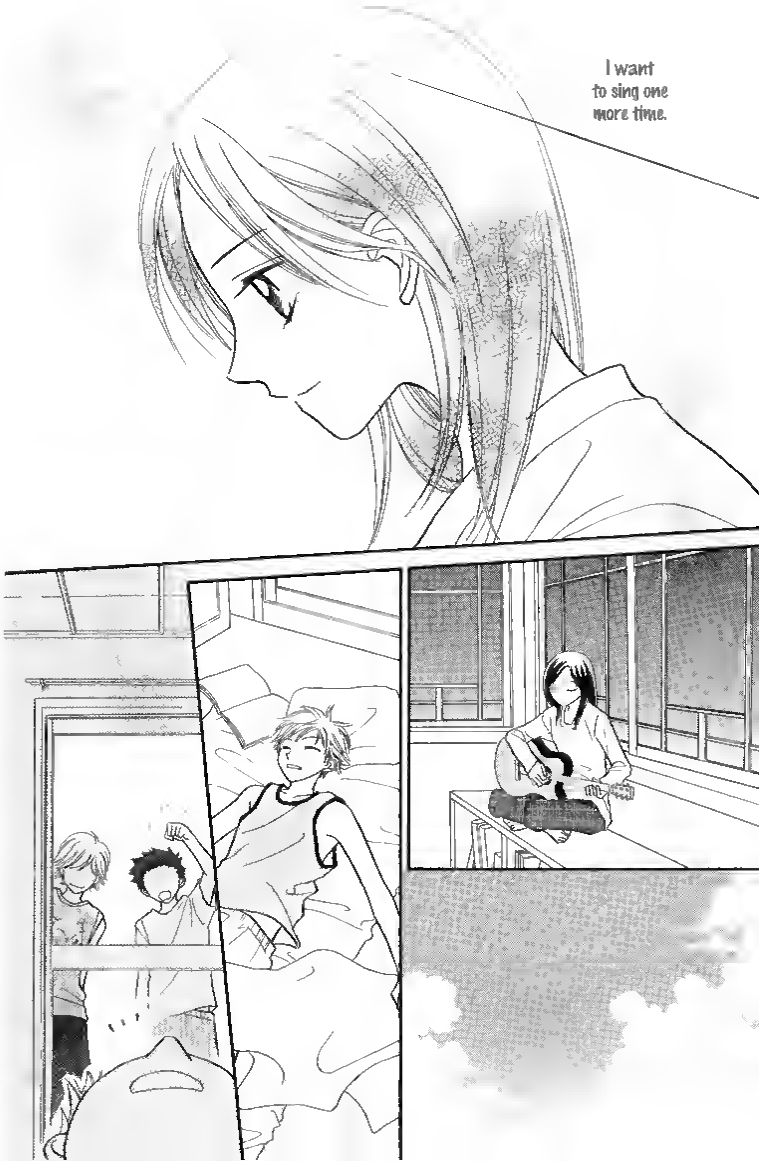
OK
...WHAT DO YOU THINK? WHY DON'T YOU TRY PUTTING IT INTO A CD?
YOUR SONG, THAT IS
Why is it...
YAY
...that you give me so much courage?

I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOU'D COME UP WITH SOMETHING AS ELABORATE AS THAT.
THANKS
DON'T MENTION IT
ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW WHAT...?
EH?
I THOUGHT THAT I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT
Carrying this disease with me.
Crunch
SOMEONE LIKE ME..
HUH?
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

I LOVE YOU
EH?
IF YOU HAVE AN AILMENT LIKE THAT,
Eh...
THEN LET'S MEET ONLY AT NIGHT
YOU SHOULD SLEEP DURING THE DAY
WHEN THE SUN SETS,
I'LL COME SEE YOU

HUH?
ARE YOU CRYING?
I'M NOT IDIOT
EH?
SHOW ME SHOW ME
I SAID I'M NOT CRYING..
LANK
...OK
DON'T CRY...

Ha ha
WHAT A FUNNY FACE
MEANIE...
pinch
SMILE


I want
to sing one
more time.

Up until now,
I didn't dare
to dream.
We
bought it
back for
you.
so that
I wouldn't
get hurt.

But, now, I can hope because you pulled my hand
because you're by my side..

BIN
BI
..I messed up.
One more time.
WHAT'S WRONG?
. Huh?
AH, YEAH,
IT SEEMS THAT I'M A BIT TIRED.
I'LL GO TO LOOK FOR SOMETHING TO EAT.

What's wrong?
...
Clench
release
I'm all right.
Nothing's wrong.
Sweet!
I'm all right.
Phew
...Oh.
Thank goodness Everything's fine.

Bi
Bin
Gi
No way.
DON'T TELL ME
BIN
Again
BI
GI

My fingers can't press down on the strings very well.
This can't be...
fu
My fingers...
...won't move...

IT'S NOT TOO SEVERE AT THIS MOMENT, BUT HER BRAIN IS BEGINNING TO ATROPHY.
I BELIEVE THAT THE NEUROLOGICAL BREAK DOWN CAUSED BY XP HAS BEGUN TO SHOW.
CLICK
SHE WILL DIE, YOU MEAN?
PERHAPS IN THE NEAR FUTURE, IT WILL ADVANCE INTO A PARALYSIS OF HER WHOLE BODY.
BEFORE LONG...

CLATTER
AMANE-SAN.
sigh
THUD
sighs
BUT IT'S STRANGE, SENSEI
I'VE NEVER EXPOSED HER TO THE SUNLIGHT
WHEN SHE WAS A KID, NO MATTER HOW MUCH SHE CRIED AND SCREAMED AT ME TO LET HER GO OUTSIDE,
I WOULD SLAP HER FACE AND LOCK HER INSIDE THE HOUSE
YET WHY? WHY DID IT TURN INTO THIS?
Clench

THE NEUROLOGICAL DETERIORATION TYPICAL OF XP BEGAN AT THE ONSET OF THE DISEASE.
IT DEVELOPS REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT OF EXPOSURE TO ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS.
THAT'S NOT IT
WHAT WAS ALL THAT FOR? WAS EVERY-THING I DID FOR NOTHING?
DON'T JOKE WITH ME.
ALL THIS TIME, I LOCKED MY DAUGHTER IN THE DARKNESS, EVEN THOUGH SHE HATES IT.
WHY?
THEREFORE, THE FACT THAT THAT SHE HADN'T DEVELOPED THE SYMPTOM UNTIL THIS AGE IS ALREADY A MIRACLE.
THAT'S THANKS TO THE EFFORTS THAT YOU PUT IN, AMANE-SAN.
MIRACLE?
DON'T TRY TO SETTLE THE PROBLEM WITH SUGAR-COATED WORDS.

RAWR
Why won't you release the next chapter?!
Can I help you?
What can I do to help?
Fan Girl
It's not like YOU helped out any...
We don't have enough translators or editors
Cross-eyed attempt
Visit our website for details
Find us some translators and editors and you'll have your next chapter
http://www.aerandria.net

SCANNER LACHILLE
TRANSLATOR ASAMIA
PROOFREADER ELIAA
EDITOR KULALAOE & AAREN
QC: LACHILLE

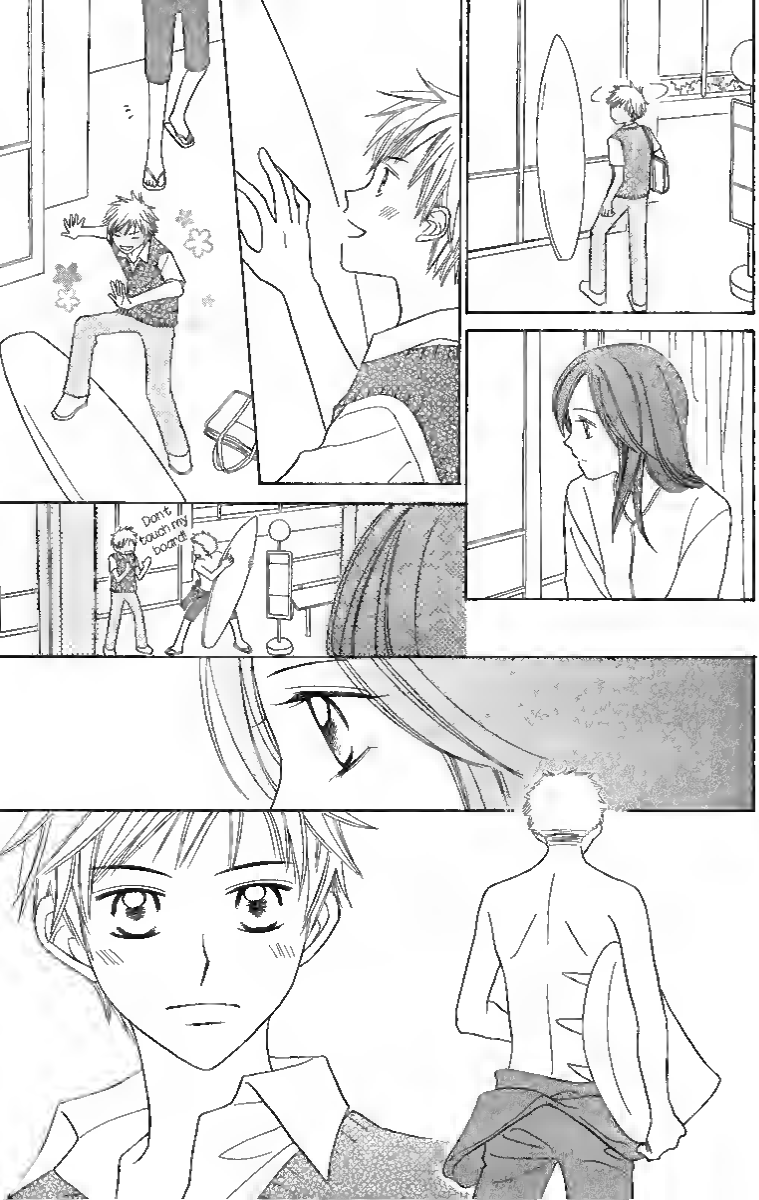
passes the box of tissues around Please use at your own discretion T_T

- Lacaille

KAORU,
KOUJI-KUN IS HERE TO SEE YOU
WHY DOES THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO MY DAUGHTER?
I'M COMING IN.
GOOD EVENING.

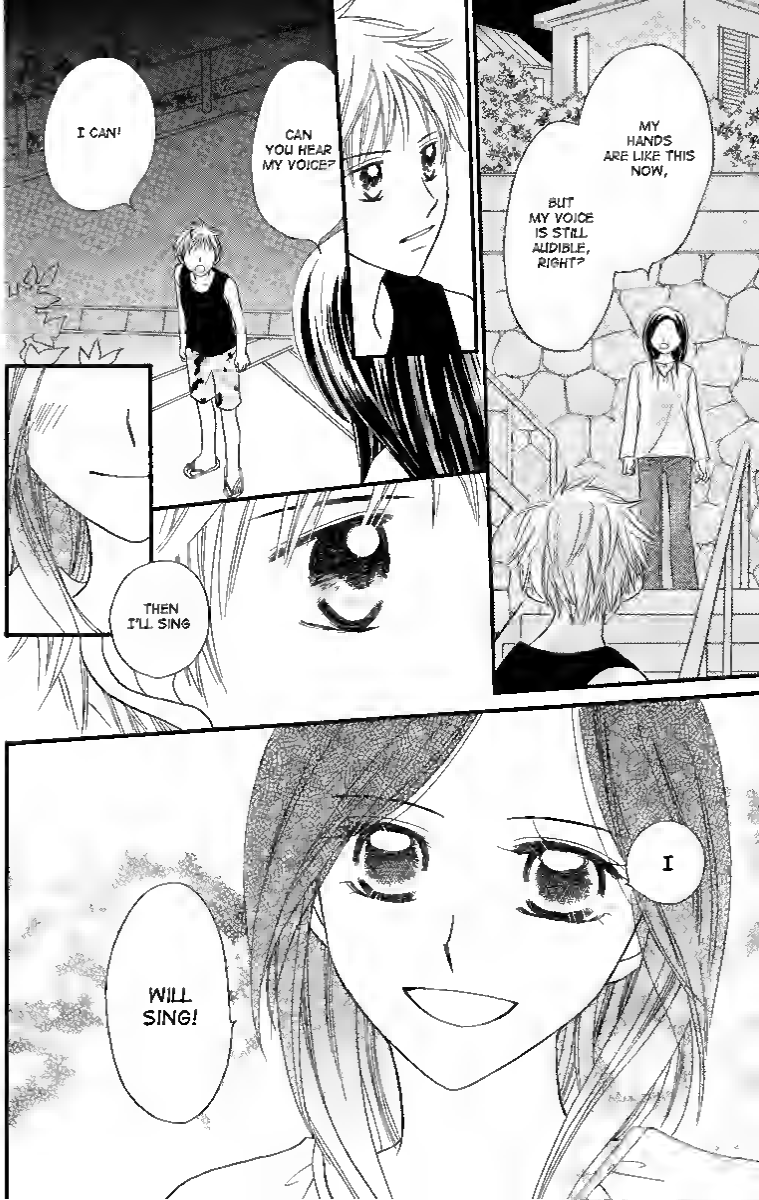
YEAH
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
I'M SORRY
EH?
YOU'RE WORKING TO EARN MONEY FOR ME,
YET I CAN'T SING ANYMORE
I'M SORRY
DID I DO SOMETHING WEIRD?
Clatter
EH?

AH, DID YOU HEAR ME FART?
I DIDN'T.
PFFT
YOU DIDN'T.
LIKE PICKING MY NOSE.
Well...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY SOME-THING WEIRD?
YOU WERE WATCHING ME FROM HERE EVERY DAY, RIGHT?
THAT FIGURES
THEN IT'S FINE
Clack
THE FIRST TIME THAT I SAW YOU,
YOU WERE LIKE A KID


Don't touch my board!

AT THE TIME, YOU LOOKED REALLY HAPPY
It's my board.
JUST SETTING MY EYES ON YOU, I FELT HAPPY, TOO
SO YOU WERE LOOKING AT ME
YEAH. I WAS LIKE THAT, TOO,
WHEN I GOT MY FIRST GUITAR...

I SEE
I WAS AS EXCITED AS YOU.
THANKS
YEAH
THEN, LATER
HEY


I CAN!
CAN YOU HEAR MY VOICE?
MY HANDS ARE LIKE THIS NOW,
BUT MY VOICE IS STILL AUDIBLE, RIGHT?
THEN I'LL SING
I WILL SING!

LATER
As I thought, I can't let this continue.
I won't try to stop it anymore.
Even if I can no longer play the guitar,
I still have a voice.
Crunch

WOW
YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO DEBUT
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH
OK, SHALL WE BEGIN NOW?
THE ARRANGE-MENTS ARE AS I EXPLAINED EARLIER
Well then can you hop inside the booth?
FLU MP
DO YOUR BEST WE'LL WATCH FROM HERE
YOU DISTRACT ME, SO GET OUT
EH?
YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
In the

EH? ME, TOO? WHY?
YOU CAN LISTEN TO IT ONCE THE CD IS DONE.
WHY?
PLEASE JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD, DAD.
I'LL LISTEN TO THE WHOLE THING.
YOU LEAVE, TOO.
EVEN NOW, YOU STILL WON'T LET US LISTEN?
WHATEVER
YOU NEVER LISTEN AFTER BEING TOLD ONCE
Screaming
WHAT? ME, TOO?
out
ALL RIGHT, LET'S ALL LEAVE HER BE.
GO AHEAD
YES
Click
ALL RIGHT, SHALL WE START?

HEY, DID YOU WRITE THIS YOURSELF?
YES
My song.
RECORDING
REALLY?
IT'S A NICE SONG

SHE'S NOT A PRO AFTER ALL.
SHE'S ALMOST LIKE A PRO.
ABOUT WHAT?
LIKE, SHE'S OUT OF TUNE! OR SOMETHING?
BUT WILL SHE BE ALL RIGHT? WON'T SHE MAKE THEM ANGRY?
WHY DON'T YOU CALM DOWN A BIT?
You can't hear anything
REALLY?
I WAS SURPRISED WHEN WE WENT TO YOKOHAMA
AS SOON AS SHE STARTED SINGING, PEOPLE FLOCKED AROUND HER IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE
NORMALLY, OTHER PERFORMERS WOULD GET SCARED, AND BE UNABLE TO SING,
BUT THE MORE PEOPLE THAT GATHERED AROUND, THE MORE LIVELY SHE GOT.
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I ALSO BECAME A FAN OF HERS.

WHEN THIS CD COMES OUT,
I'M THINKING ABOUT BUILDING A MARKET FOR IT.
I'M GOING TO SEND LOTS AND LOTS OF HER CDS
TO MAJOR MUSIC COMPANIES, AS WELL AS TV AND RADIO STATIONS
THAT SHE'LL BECOME A BIG STAR IN THE FUTURE.
I'M SURE.
There are feelings that I want to convey.

It's so bright.
As always, the sun isn't on my side..
Ka-Thunk
AH!

I messed up~
Puwah
...but I feel that the light shining on him is really gentle
fufu

Eek.
You'll fall if you run that fast.
Noooo

Rustle
Rustle
WHAT'S WRONG?
IT'S A LITTLE HOT...
OH,
THE FAN ON YOUR BACK ISN'T WORKING?
IT'S TOO TROUBLE-SOME,
SO WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THAT THING OFF?

TAKE IT OFF. TAKE IT OFF.
EH?
Like, with
WEAR A T-SHIRT
AND RUN AROUND.
NO WAY.
I DECIDED THAT I'D LIVE UNTIL I HAVE TO DIE.
IF I DO THAT, I'LL DIE

I'LL LIVE, LIVE,
AND KEEP ON LIVING.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
DAD IS AN IDIOT.
YEAH
SORRY.

CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
Stagger
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
...A GIRL WHO CRIED AND CRIED, SAYING THAT SHE WANTED TO GO OUTSIDE...
A GIRL WHO'S BEEN LIVING IN DARKNESS ALL THIS TIME...

I've decided...
that I won't give up anymore.
HAS GROWN SO MUCH, IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE
I won't lament my fate anymore.
Crunch
Crunch
Even if a painful fate is waiting for me,
I'll laugh with all my might and keep on living

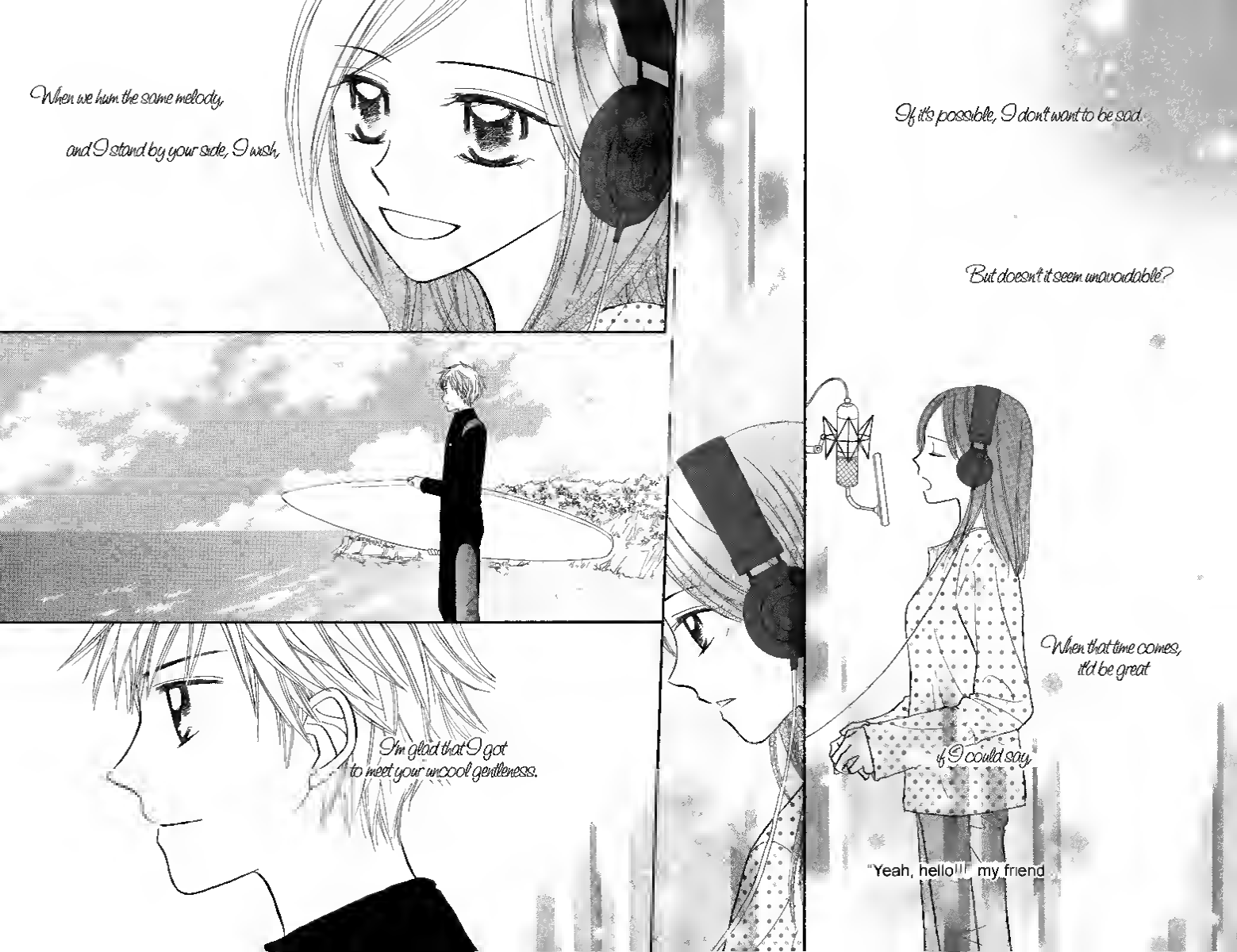
STAGGER
AH
WAH!
STOPS
JUST KIDDING
I WAS CAUGHT IN TIME
Phew
PINCH

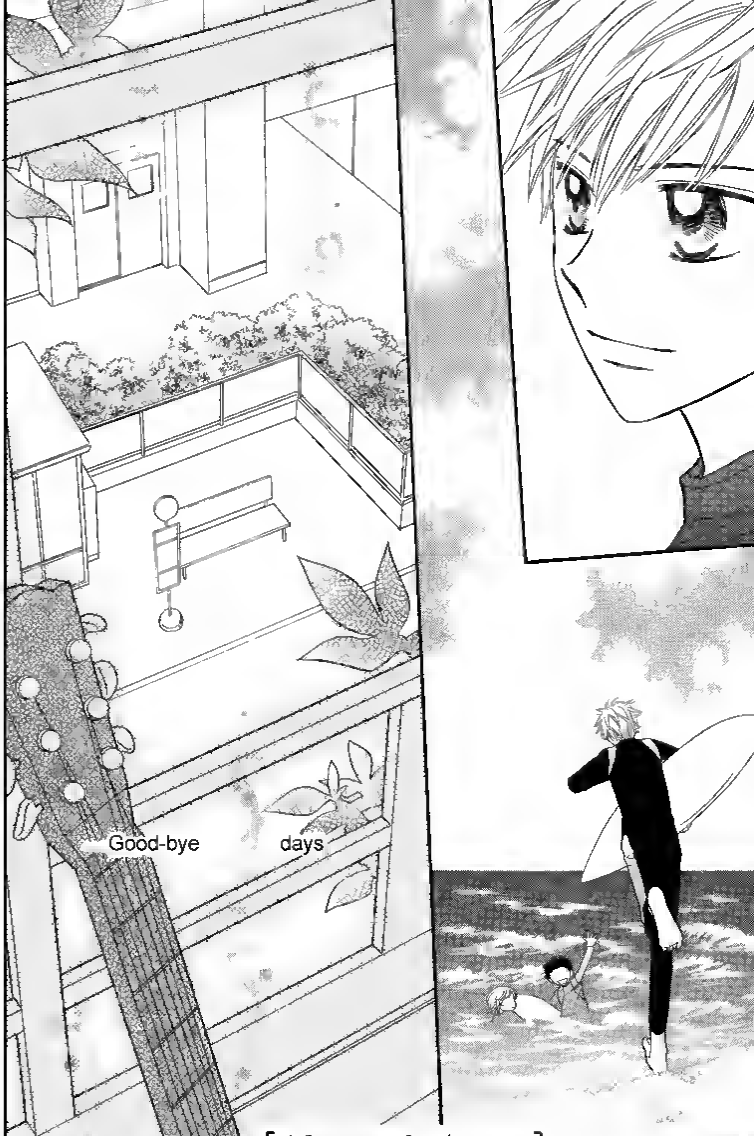
YOU LOOK FUNNY
Shortly after that,
she passed away...

. leaving behind lots of memories.
JR
and a song that I loved.

So now
I'm going to meet you.
That's what I've decided.
I want you to hear this song in my pocket.
Softly raising the volume, I tried to make sure...

Oh, good-bye days
Right now, I feel that I'm changing.
ON AIR
Until yesterday, so long,
because there's an uncool
gentleness by my side.
... with you


When we hum the same melody,
and I stand by your side, I wish,
If it's possible, I don't want to be sad.
But doesn't it seem unavoidable?
When that time comes,
it'd be great
if I could say,
"Yeah, hello!!" my friend
I'm glad that I got
to meet your uncool gentleness.


Good-bye
days

Afterword